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Congress in getting the independence idea before the people. Paine's "Common Sense" is represented as inspired by members of Congress, conceived with deliberation, and made to appear at the "psychological moment" calculated to make it a success. From that point on the gradual growth of the power of Congress is clearly drawn, but the character of the power is never defined. Though the author states that the enforcement of Congress' resolutions was left to assemblies, conventions and committees of safety, yet he seems not to see how this fact affects the interpretation of Congress' position in the American political system.

In the chapter entitled "The Congress and the Democracy," the methods used by the radicals to free themselves from the conservatives fortified behind the old franchise limitations are admirably sketched. How Congress took advantage of the actions of British government, and how it used the growing Continental army to strengthen the revolutionary organization, and how it perfected the system of revolutionary conventions and committees is a fascinating political study. We cannot see how Mr. Friedenwald justified the statement (p. 92) that Ellery, of Rhode Island, came to Congress with new instructions "permitting them (Rhode Island delegates) to vote for independence if joined by others." The delegates themselves were disappointed in not receiving definite instructions as to independence (see Staples, R. I. in the Cont. Cong.). Again, the statement (p. 96) as to Gwinnett and Hall's instructions needs modification to give the exact spirit of the instructions. The following chapter, "Independence in the Making," portrays in a scholarly way the last stages of the fight. Two slips should be noted: There is nothing in Delaware's instructions that warrants the statement (p. 110) that she swung "into line for independence on June 14th," and Governor Franklin was not "ordered" (p. 112), but *recommended* to be sent into Connecticut.

The succeeding chapters tell of the adopting and signing of the Declaration, criticise its critics, discuss its purpose and very ably explain its philosophy. The last two chapters consist of an examination of the historical accuracy of the charges made in the Declaration against the British king. These chapters represent an immense amount of careful research in the materials relating to the early stages of the Revolution. The book as a whole represents an amount of study that gives great credit to the author's conscientious scholarship. It will be greeted with real enthusiasm by all students of this ever-interesting theme.

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The American Colonies in the Seventeenth Century. By HERBERT L. OSGOOD. 2 vols. Pp. 1068. Price, \$5.00. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1904.

Probably most students of American colonial history have been at times oppressed by the volume of material which they owe to the antiquarian zeal and local patriotism of individuals and public authorities in the older states of the Union. There is now available a great quantity of source-material,

edited with varying degrees of scientific accuracy. Many useful monographs have been constructed dealing with particular localities or particular phases of institutional life, but there still remained the need of an institutional history of the colonies which should be not only thorough, but comprehensive, in which the multiplicity of details should not prevent a clear statement of underlying principles.

This need Professor Osgood has undertaken to supply. All serious students of American history have been familiar for some time with his qualifications for the task. The expectations thus raised have not been disappointed.

The scope of the present work is limited by the definite selection of a single line of inquiry to which all other interests are subordinated. To use the words of the author, himself, he has made "an attempt" "to interpret early American history in the terms of public law." Thus we have primarily a study of the state with only such consideration of other interests as may be found necessary to illustrate the activity of the state. In some instances, the adoption of this principle leads to marked departures from conventional treatment. Thus the Plymouth Colony is treated first as an incident in the administrative history of the Council for New England; and, in a later chapter, following the description of Massachusetts, there is a brief account of its governmental organization. For the distinctively religious aspect of the Pilgrim Colony, the reader must look elsewhere. Again, almost the only reference to slavery in South Carolina is to be found in a description of the military system of that province. These examples are given only to show how closely the author adheres to his original definition of the field. On the other hand, whenever ecclesiastical and economic facts have a direct and obvious bearing upon political institutions, they receive a remarkably thorough and satisfactory treatment. This is illustrated by the admirable chapter on "Church and State in Massachusetts," the treatment of the corresponding subject in the proprietary provinces, and the chapters on the land systems of the various colonies. The two volumes now issued deal primarily with institutions as worked out in the individual colonies, leaving the development of a colonial policy by the home government, the institution of a system of imperial control, to be considered in a third volume. This results in a chronological limitation of the field, which varies in different colonies. Thus the history of Virginia closes with 1624, that of Massachusetts with 1684, while the study of proprietary government in the Carolinas is in some of its phases carried into the early years of the eighteenth century.

After a brief study of the sixteenth century charters of discovery, the author considers first the earlier form of proprietary government in which land and jurisdiction were conferred on a commercial corporation, governing from its place of business in England the colony which it had founded in America. This phase of colonization is illustrated by the experience of Virginia under the London Company and by the Council for New England. This method of planting colonies passed, without at first any conscious purpose on the part of the English Government, into what Professor Osgood calls the "corporate colony." The transition is seen in the history of Massachusetts

Bay, whose government originated in a charter similar to that of the Virginia Company, but was given a radically different direction by the emigration of the officers and active members of the corporation. The corporate privileges granted by the charters were thereafter exercised wholly by men who were themselves colonists, and who were in a position to work out their own ideals with almost complete freedom from external interference. Under this system the characteristic institutions of New England were developed along lines sharply divergent in many respects from the prevailing ideals and practices of the mother country.

Parallel with the development of the corporate colony in New England, there arose a new form of the proprietary province, based on the old world model of the palatinate, and becoming for a time the characteristic form of government in the middle and southern colonies. In opportunities for self-government the proprietary provinces were inferior to the corporate colonies of New England. Yet here also a wide field was opened for political experiment, first through the liberal theories of the proprietors themselves, best illustrated in the Quaker colonies of Pennsylvania and West Jersey, and partly also through the necessity of political concessions in order to attract and to hold settlers. Thus in a considerable measure the form of the proprietary province was modified by the incorporation of distinctively popular and American principles.

The author does not adhere rigidly to a uniform arrangement of topics for the different groups of colonies. Generally speaking, however, a description of the growth and organization of particular governments is followed by a discussion of the manner in which various governmental functions, such as judicial administration, finance and colonial defense, were performed in the general group to which the particular colonies belonged. These latter chapters will probably be recognized as especially important contributions to our stock of historical knowledge. The attention of the reader may also be particularly directed to the conservative but suggestive generalizations to be found in the introductory and concluding chapters. The practical efficiency of the book is greatly enhanced by a detailed table of contents and a careful analytic index.

Throughout these two volumes one sees evidence of the thorough use of a wide range of materials. Some monographs are judiciously used, but in the main, the work rests upon independent examination of the sources. One is struck not only with the range of material used, but still more with a certain intimacy which the author shows with his authorities. There is also a discriminating selection of essentials, which in the hands of a less experienced scholar might have been lost in a mass of undigested details.

There are doubtless many persons to whom the author's style will seem somewhat dry. The general reader will probably not find entertainment in these pages, and even the student may feel that the author's close adherence to governmental forms and functions has been, at times, too rigid. In the main, however, the difficulties of the book are of a kind almost inevitable from the nature of the topics chosen, and the serious reader will find it not only instructive, but full of interest. For the student of our institutional

beginnings, Professor Osgood has provided one of the few treatises which are really indispensable.

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The Anthracite Coal Communities. By PETER ROBERTS. A Study of the Social, Educational and Moral Life of the Anthracite Regions. Pp. xii, 387. Price, \$3.50. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1904.

To all persons interested in the industrial and social life of the American people, and especially of those of foreign birth, Dr. Roberts has rendered a service in the production of this work. The present study of industrial and social conditions in the anthracite regions, shows evidence of a vast amount of research and of a large and broad experience on the part of the author. The difficulties in the way of an adequate description of the social, religious and industrial life of the many diverse peoples jumbled together in the anthracite regions, must be apparent to any one who has essayed the task. For the prosecution of this work, however, Dr. Roberts is peculiarly well equipped, having lived for the greater part of his life in this region and having by daily intercourse obtained a great body of information which he has made accessible in this book.

In view of the undoubted merits of the work before us, it is an ungrateful task to point out defects, however patent and obvious. Dr. Roberts has presented to us a large amount of information, covering every phase of the life of the native and foreign-born miner of eastern Pennsylvania, and the matter in the main is both true and original. His style of presentation, however, is bad. The work is diffuse, and is interlarded with much extraneous matter. The book also lacks a broad and basic philosophy, while it abounds in moral reflections which are somewhat obvious.

The book of Dr. Roberts is therefore valuable, not as a whole, but for its parts. If we disregard its conclusions and commentaries, there still remains a considerable fragment of the book, consisting of information and observations upon the industrial population of the anthracite regions. The author is thoroughly conversant with the statistical information previously available, and presents this matter in a clear and interesting manner. Of still greater value, however, are the individual observations of the author upon the character of the various races employed in and about the mines, their standard of living, their home life, the manner and extent of their education, the literature which they read, the religious and intellectual influences which bear upon them, their tendency toward drunkenness, their disposition to crime and pauperism, their tendency toward saving money, their attitude toward marriage, their relations toward the state and the various other elements which enter into the social, moral and industrial life of the people. In these observations of social phenomena, Dr. Roberts shows himself both acute and discerning, and his direct generalizations are always vivid, even where they are too broad to be entirely accurate.

It is impossible in the course of a short criticism to give the reader any